## REMARKS

1. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-15, and 17-32 were pending. Claims 1, 15, 21-26, 28, 29, 31, and 32 have been amended. Claims 33-48 have been added. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-15, and 17-48 are now pending. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.

2. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

(i) Claims 1, 7-9, 14-15, 21-23, and 28-31 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780);

(ii) Claims 3-4, 10-13, 17-18, 24-27, and 32-33 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780);

(iii) Claims 5, 19, and 20 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780) in view of Teper et al. (US Patent No. 5,815,665);

(iv) Claims 11 and 25 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780) in view of Brown et al. (US Patent No. 5,941,947); and

(v) Claims 32-33 were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780) in view of admitted prior art.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and requests consideration of the following.

## A. Ensor et al. Teach Network Access

Ensor et al. teach a password authentication security system for a telecommunications network having a plurality of user terminals or subscriber stations communicably coupled to the network. The password is checked by the security system before a terminal or station is given access o the network. After the terminal or station has access to the network, Ensor et al. teach that the terminal or station has access to software resources on the network that can to downloaded to the terminal or station. Ensor et al. do not teach that a further authentication is performed after network access is gained and before any resource, such as a particular software for downloading, is accessed by the terminal or station. As such, once the terminal or station has gained access to the network via a password check, no further checking is performed by the security system to ascertain access to any resource on the network.

Ensor et al. store an encrypted password at the user terminal or station, which necessarily involves contacting the user terminal or station.

## B. Applicants Teach Network and Resource Access

Applicants disclose at Page 4, lines 6-17 of the present specification:

> When a user logs-on to an operating system, the user supplies a user-name and password. If the operating system recognizes the user then a unique user-token is generated by the system and the user-token is added to a user-token cache. At subsequent log-ons by the same user, the system returns the same user-token from the user-token cache. *Then, if the user has requested a resource, the system checks the access-cache to see if the requested resource has already been accessed by the requesting user.* If the requested resource has already been accessed by the requesting user then access to the resource is again provided by the system. (emphasis added)

As such, Applicants teach still further authentication for each network resource. This extra check is beyond conventional password authentication required of any user to gain network access. Rather, Applicants' inventive teaching of both network and network resource authentication requires that an access check be performed for any resource on the network that is requested by any user that has already gained access to the network itself. Ensor et al. do not teach the two-stage, network and network-resource access procedure as taught by the Applicants.

### C. Applicants Determine Resource Access Without User Contact Access

The claimed invention does not store an encrypted password at the user during a resource access check. Rather, the claimed invention permits access to a resource without contacting the user, unlike Ensor et al.

### D. Commonly Owned Subject Matter under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c)

Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Wash. is listed as the assignee on the face of each of Teper et al. (US Patent No. 5,815,665) and Brown et al. (US Patent No. 5,941,947). The present application is a continuation of US Patent Application No. 08/689,838, filed on August 14, 1996, now US Patent No. 5,889,952 (the "Parent Case"). A copy of the assignment document for the Parent Case, attached hereto and recorded at Reel 8810, Frame 0594 in the records of the US Patent and Trademark Office, also identifies Microsoft of Redmond, Wash. as the corporation that is the assignee. As such, the present application was commonly owned with the subject matter of Teper et al. (US Patent No. 5,815,665) and Brown et al. (US Patent No. 5,941,947) on the filing date thereof.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. §

103(a) applying Teper et al. (US Patent No. 5,815,665) and Brown et al. (US Patent No. 5,941,947) are to be withdrawn in view of the proscription of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) against applying commonly owned subject matter against the claimed invention.

### E. <u>Admitted Prior Art Obviousness Rejection Is Moot</u>

In view of the amendments made to independent Claim 31, the rejection of Claims 32-33 over Ensor et al (US Patent No. 5,721,780) in view of admitted prior art are moot.

3. Neither the admitted prior art nor Ensor et al. teach, suggest, or imply the combinations of the recited elements in the pending new and amended independent claims. The Applicant respectfully submits that, as to the claims now pending, a *prima facie* case of obvious has not been made out, or in the alternative, the pending claims avoid the rejections. As such, the Applicant respectfully maintains that the pending independent claims are allowable, as are the claims respectively depending therefrom. Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of Claims 1, 3-5, 7-15, and 17-48 at an early date is solicited.

## Marked up Version of the Pending Claims Under 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii):

Amend Claims 1, 15, 21-26, 28, 29, 31, and 32 as follows and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c)(1)(ii), by which the Applicants submit the following marked up version only for claims being changed by the current amendment, wherein the markings are shown by brackets (for deleted matter) and/or underlining (for added matter):

1. (Thrice Amended) A computer-readable medium having a plurality of executable instructions at least a subset of which, when executed, implement a method comprising:

upon receipt of an indication from a user having access to a computer network to access a resource on the computer network, checking a first memory, without performing a file open procedure upon a file in which are stored any access permissions of users for access to the resource, to determine if the [a] user has previously accessed the [a] resource [on a computer network upon receipt of an indication from the user to access the resource]; and

providing the user with access to the resource if the first memory indicates that the user has previously accessed the resource.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for providing access to a requested resource on a computer network, the method comprising:

checking a first memory, without performing a file open procedure upon a file in which are stored any access permissions of users for access to the requested resource, to determine if a user having access to the computer network has previously accessed [a] the requested resource; and

providing the user with access to the requested resource if the first memory indicates that the user has previously accessed the requested resource.

21. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the requested resource is a file.

22. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the requested resource is a volume of files.

23. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the requested resource is a memory device.

24. (Once Amended) The method of claim 30 wherein storing the information in the first memory comprises overwriting other information associated with the requested resource in the first memory.

25. (Once Amended) The method of claim 24 wherein storing the information in the first memory comprises writing a token for the user in the first memory over another token for another user that had last previous access to the requested resource.

26. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15 further comprising, if the requested resource is altered, removing indications from the first memory allowing access to the requested resource.

28. (Once Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the request from the user indicates an operation to perform with respect to the requested resource, and further comprising:

checking the first memory to determine if the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource;

providing the user with access to the requested resource to perform the operation if the first memory indicates that the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource;

checking a second memory to determine if the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource if the first memory does not indicate that the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource;

providing the user with access to the requested resource if the second memory indicates that the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource; and

storing information in the first memory indicating that the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource if, after checking the second memory, the second memory indicates that the user may perform the operation with respect to the requested resource.

29. (Once Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 1, further comprising:

checking a second memory to determine if the user may access the [requested] resource if the first memory does not indicate that the user has previously accessed the [requested] resource;

providing the user with access to the [requested] resource if the second memory indicates that the user may access the [requested] resource; and

storing information in the first memory indicating that the user may access the resource if, after checking the second memory, the second memory indicates that the user may access the [requested] resource.

31. (Once Amended) A method for controlling access to a requested resource on a computer network by a requesting user having access to the computer network, the method comprising:

checking a memory, without performing a file open procedure upon a file in which are stored any access permissions of users for access to the requested resource, to determine if [a] the requesting user has previously accessed the requested resource; and

providing the requesting user with access to the requested resource if the requesting user has previously accessed the requested resource.

32. (Once Amended) A method according to claim 31, further comprising:

[opening the requested resource] performing a file open procedure upon the file in which are stored any access permissions of users for access to the requested resource to determine if the requesting user may access the requested resource if the memory does not indicate that the requesting user has previously accessed the requested resource; and

providing the requesting user with access to the requested resource if the requested resource indicates that the requesting user may access the requested resource.

4. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application which could be clarified by a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 2ND day of May, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

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